

100

DOCKS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO.
The Dock Company's Establishments at Whampoa, afford every facility for Repairing, Sparring, and Refitting Vessels of all sizes; the Company are also prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt dispatch.
The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet long, with 520 feet of the Dock, and a breadth of 100 feet at the entrance. It can be used as either one or two Docks, being fitted with two Caissons. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps, and is fitted with a large crane.
Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 10 to 17 feet.
At Neap, do. 12 to 15 feet.
Attached to the Docks is a Pair of Sluices, fitted with 2 Capstans and 3 Windlasses, and capable of lifting 50 tons, with a Depth of Water under the Sluices, alongside the Jetty, enough for any vessel on all times of Tide.
Also, One Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draught of 12 feet at Spring Tides, and 11 at Neap Tides. This Dock is also fitted with a Crane, and is pumped out by steam.

There are also two Tugs, one capable of taking in Vessels of 100 tons on the keel, with a Draught of 12 feet at Spring Tides, and 10 at Neap Tides. The other Tug, of 120 tons, is capable of taking in Vessels of 120 tons on the keel, with a Draught of 12 feet at Spring Tides, and 10 at Neap Tides.
The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, is a public company, and is authorized to take in Vessels of all sizes, and to repair, spar, and refit them. The Company is also authorized to execute all kinds of work with prompt dispatch.
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DEPARTURE OF STEAMERS.
The "Rever" leaves for Singapore, Penang and Calcutta on 16th inst. at Noon. Mails close at 11 A.M.
The "M. S. S. Coquette," leaves for Shanghai, 2 hours after the arrival of the Shanghai, Mail-Steamer.
The "Alpine," leaves for Singapore, and Calcutta, on Friday, the 19th inst. at 4 P.M. Mails close at 3 P.M.
The "Rona," leaves for Shanghai, via the ports on Tuesday the 16th inst. at 4 P.M. Mails close at 3 P.M.
The "Queen," leaves for Bombay on 15th inst. at 2 P.M. Mails close at 6 P.M. on 4th and the last supplementary mail at 1 P.M. on 15th.

At Shamoon Canton, on the 11th inst. the Wife of General Giron, Esq. of a Daughter.

Bound Volumes of the "CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT" FOR 1863.
Price—\$12.
Apply at the Office of this paper.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1864.

A FIRE attended with loss of life occurred about one o'clock on Thursday morning in a small wooden house at West Point. The engines of No. 6 Station were quickly in attendance and succeeded after some time in extinguishing the flames. It was ascertained that the house was used as a warehouse for various goods, and that the fire was caused by a candle which had been left burning.

YESTERDAY morning about three o'clock, some thieves carried off from the stable at the premises lately occupied by Mr. Pollard, several very valuable Spanish, Dutch, and English fowls, and English white geese, the property of that gentleman. A watchman employed to guard the house saw the vagabonds making off up the hill with their booty. Mr. Pollard offers a reward of a hundred dollars for the apprehension of one or more of the thieves.

The advices from New Zealand brought on by the mail are very satisfactory. In the fourth page will be found an extract from the Melbourne Argus, detailing some important results. It will be seen that the Maori have been soundly thrashed, and have sued for peace.

AMONGST our extracts will be found the particulars of the loss of the Federal Iron clad "Fenimore" whilst at anchor off Charleston. The vessel was little for the efficiency of the Federal Navy, or of the capabilities of their iron clads, to combat with the elements.

We were in hopes of being enabled to chronicle the full history of the late proposed Challenge Cup, particularly not only the winning horses and their riders, but also the respective time in which each contest was performed, together with the names and particulars of the second horse, and such like details. The struggles connected with this far famed cup have excited so much local interest, that a correct record of the various events connected with it, would, we should suppose, present a pleasing reminiscence to all old residents here, and would likewise serve as a guide and a point of departure for the memory.

This celebrated cup was the gift of the late Mr. Joseph Jardine. The value was small and the design by no means good. Had the cup been more valuable, it would have been more likely to attract the attention of the public, and to be more likely to be stolen. The cup was stolen on the 10th inst. and the thief was caught on the 11th inst. The thief was a Chinese, and was named "Loo." He was caught by a watchman, and was taken to the police station. He was found guilty, and was sentenced to be flogged.

The following is the correct list of the winners of the Challenge Cup:

1860. Mr. Jardine's *Saxton*.
1861. Mr. Rider's *Robert Jardine*.
1862. Mr. Rider's *Robert Jardine*.
1863. Mr. Rider's *Robert Jardine*.

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and common sense teach us, but we think our remarks should indicate the necessity of the records of the Hongkong turf being kept more correctly and minutely than hitherto.

We believe that a meeting has been decided about the middle of the month. One of the objects of the meeting is to decide on the terms on which the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company should be allowed to take in Vessels of all sizes, and to repair, spar, and refit them.

The Japanese Embassy. We have heard upon authority that it was arranged with the French Admiral at a conference held on board the *Sémiramis* on Thursday, that the Japanese Embassy should be allowed to take in Vessels of all sizes, and to repair, spar, and refit them.

Reduction of duties. The following little paragraph in our Daily issue of the 17th inst. communicated to the public a fact which will considerably interest many of our readers.

We are informed that a conference was held yesterday between the French and some of the Japanese Ambassadors, in which it was decided that the duties on wine and spirits should be reduced to 5 per cent, and on Parisian articles to 10 per cent.

Our readers here and elsewhere are aware that one of the principal grievances foreigners present at or trading with this port have had to submit to, has been the enormous rates of duty payable upon imports both for foreign wine and for spirits. The duty upon wine and spirits was 50 per cent, and the general duty upon all other goods was 20 per cent.

When the former Japanese Embassy was in London and Paris in 1862, one of the conditions upon which the English and French Governments consented to the payment of the duties on wine and spirits, was that the Japanese should be allowed to import wine and spirits at a reduced rate of duty.

Since the above was in type we have been favoured by the American Minister with a copy of a Memorandum of Understanding, in which it is stated that the Japanese should be allowed to import wine and spirits at a reduced rate of duty.

We give this important document in extenso, as it is of great interest to all who are connected with the wine and spirit trade in this port.

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lent troupe of dogs and monkeys drew here a short time ago. I went every night, and there was almost always a good attendance, the performers seldom doing it necessary to change their programme, and the manager and his assistants having no salaries to pay (the cost of showing for the animals of course being merely nominal) netted several thousand dollars.

Our professional musical friends here have ascertained these facts before coming here at any rate, and they are now taking steps to secure for themselves a similar success. They are now taking steps to secure for themselves a similar success.

EXCLUSIVE CONCERTS. The Editor of the Daily Press. Sir,—Heating that last night's concert created a furore amongst the audience, I must suggest the advisability of repeating such concerts at a lower rate of admission, and I am confident that the repetition of such concerts would be quite as satisfactory to the audience in a pecuniary point of view, for at least double the number of persons would be present.

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